

Camphill Village Kimberton Hills news

Summer 2021



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- ◆ *A Time For Reflection*

Predawn summer morning, a gradual lightening of the sky, first one bird, then another until a joyous cacophonous deluge of birdsong assails the senses. The riches of natural life in this small oasis of Camphill Village Kimberton Hills affirms the joy of a new day. The farmers are milking the cows, and the gardeners will share an abundance of vegetables for the CSA members of this bounteous harvest. The new CSA building with kind support from Cliff Todd in memory of his sister Catherine, is almost completed and ready for improved washing and storage of the myriad variety of vegetables grown in the garden. We are grateful to the dedicated gardeners and their unflinching care of the earth through regenerative, biodynamic agricultural practices, while providing exceptional quality produce for the CSA members in CVKH and the wider local community -- and to the Chester County Food Bank, where one of our former apprentices, Ryan Gaul, now works.



We are gradually returning to a variation of normal after the pandemic year that has so affected us all. Unfortunately our Cafe is still not open for business, but we have had plays in Rose Hall again and look forward to more open events.

This is the 49th year of CVKH! Next year we will be celebrating the 50th year of Kimberton Hills becoming a Camphill Community. If you would like to share your experiences, interactions with the people, animals and life of Kimberton Hills and how those have perhaps benefitted your ongoing interactions in life, or if you have a particular anecdote or story that has stayed with you, we would love to hear from you. We would very much like to share some of these in our newsletters, on our website, or posts through the 50th anniversary year. Please feel invited to be in contact and email your memories and testimonials of Kimberton Hills to: virginia@camphillkimberton.org.



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Annual Report Correction: Gifts from \$1,000 - \$2,499

- | | |
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| G. Penn and Diane Holsenbeck | The Benevity Community Impact Fund |
| Beth Horstman | The Camphill School |
| Bob and Rosemary Huether | United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey |
| NancyMcIntyre | George Wallace |
| Medtronic Corporation Volunteer Foundation | Alan Wiegand |
| Judith Meredith | Craig Williams |
| Glen Miller | Nancy Winkelman |
| Susan Miller | Deborah Wright |
| Charles and Mary Miller | YourCause, LLC |
| Susan Montgomery | Richard Rockwell |
| Jeff Moore | Jeanine Roth |
| Network For Good | Amy Stalzer |
| Oehlert Bros., Inc | Adam Szabunio |
| Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust | |

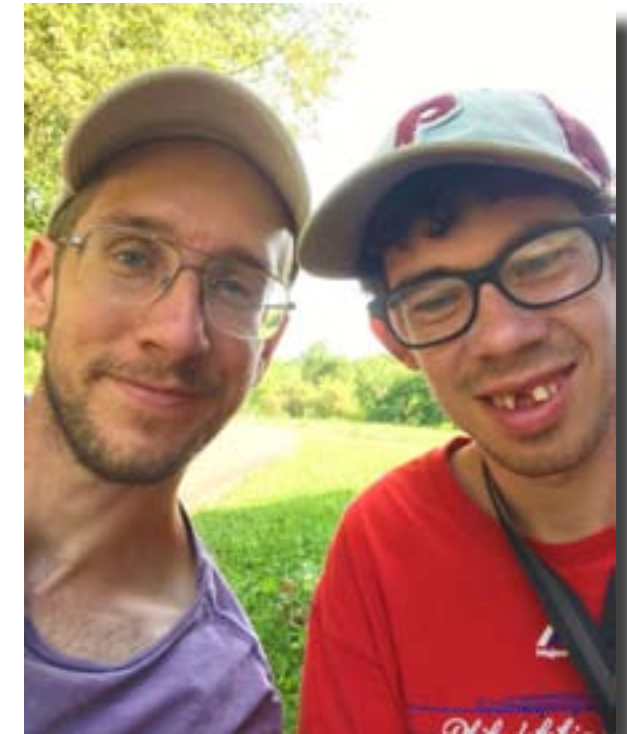
We apologize to these donors who were inadvertently omitted from our Annual Report

A Journey in Kimberton Hills

By Kris Varga, Volunteer Coworker

I started out as a day volunteer in 2019, working at Helios on Saturdays doing household chores. During my year of volunteering, I developed a deeper fondness for the community and its values. Eventually, I made the leap and became a Coworker, moving into Serena House June of 2020. At this point, the community was in a different flow state due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted with me quarantining for two weeks, which I turned into my own personal spiritual retreat. I found this fortunate because it led to some pretty important reflections and realizations in relation to the work being done here. I watched (from a distance) as folks of all abilities interacted freely throughout the community, biking up and down the drive without societal concern. There is a sense of acceptance and freedom offered here that isn't offered in the general public.

Prior to coming to Camphill, I worked at Peaceful Living, supporting individuals with special needs. We would go out into town, visit shopping malls and parks. Some great times. However, wherever we went there was a sense of caution that always lingered around our group. The public eye was uncertain on us (even when they tried not to be) and we became limited in our doings. The friends that I chaperoned were unable to express themselves and were constantly being placed in a "them" category. Society was just uncertain on how to interact with people of different abilities.



Kris and Noah



Kris with members of his Serena House family

In the course of my seven months living at Camphill thus far, I discovered integration that the rest of the world is lacking. Everyone here (coworkers and villagers) are given the appropriate space to develop their humanity together. We learn boundaries, patience, communication, focus, forgiveness, understanding, integrity, and, of course, fun. During the making of the Friends and Family Day video that some of you may have seen, I got the opportunity to interact with all of the households and workshops, something rare for an incoming coworker, especially during a pandemic! Through the lens I was able to capture a small piece of the community and what its daily offering consists of. What do you see? You see love, friendship and cooperation. The truth is that our daily living isn't always easy, and in fact it truly does offer a lot of challenges and difficulties that weren't shown in the video. But what that video tried to capture wasn't necessarily the full reality of our experience, but the heart of our experience. It showed the way that everyone here finds a home and refuge in what the community offers, or at least tries to offer to the

It's been an extraordinary experience here in Kimberton Hills so far. The restrictions of the pandemic and the precautions the community has taken in regards has me wondering what my experience here would be like in a different time (and hopefully I stay long enough to find out). Being a poet and akin to the spiritual realm and religious life, I find myself heavily inspired by the activity that happens in the community, by all the beautiful individuals and their unique personalities and perspectives. A lot of the time, my life feels more real here than it ever did outside the community, more in touch with an authentic version of my inner truth. Being present becomes more of a requirement than it does a reminder, which I appreciate. Gratitude pours in daily (and is even spoken aloud at every meal). I feel connected to people on a level deeper than your average interaction, and I always feel I have a support system at all times.



Kris enjoys time in the vineyard

One of my greatest concerns before coming to Kimberton Hills was finding personal time and space, which is extremely important to me. Yet, that has developed on its own accord (with the "boundary" aspect spoken of earlier being instigated a bit) and I feel a genuine equanimity within my needs. There's always more work to be done, internally and externally, but the aspect of centering (something I appreciate from the pottery realm) allows one a relatively peaceful and joyful experience through whatever life brings. Before coming to Camphill, a friend said to me that living in an intentional community is like putting a bunch of jagged rocks in a bag, shaking them together, resulting in a bag of smooth, polished rocks. I now understand exactly what she meant.

A Morning's Walk

By Kris Varga

A charm of goldfinches delight the spreading wildflowers, who crane their necks into a cup of sunrise with its magic, its magnificence and glory on a steady flight above the pastures below.

I walk up Camphill Drive into the morning unknown, its already September cold amazing my bones and rendering my soul who now claims its dormancy from summer's past, perhaps daunted by the heat it brought like a parched drought

Each day contains a mystery unraveling and wandering through the untested lives of all who allow themselves to be dazzled, charmed by every simplicity and difficulty that presents itself.

This is our history, right now, right here, living a wounded, grieving world, still breathing, attempting to discover solace in a morning's walk underneath the waking sun who, for some unknowable reason, still has the ability to grunt, stand disheveled yet prepared to shine its light on us all.

Save the Date!
Friends & Family Day
Saturday, October 2nd, 2021

Announcements

*Erin Throop & Dylan Babitch
welcomed*

*Gwenyth Anne Throop Babitch
Born April 30, 2021*

*Jessica White & Tom Trzcinski
welcomed*

*Olive Trzcinski
Born July 11, 2021*

*April Littel, Charlie and Charles Frey,
and Julie Finger have moved to
Massachusetts*

*Mimi and John Tower will move to
Ghent, New York. Congratulations to
Mimi on her ordination as a Christian
Community priest*

A Time For Reflection

Looking Ahead to Our 50th Anniversary in 2022

By Craig Williams, Director of Development

The past year presented us with many unanticipated and new challenges in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic while maintaining our steadfast devotion to our mission and villagers. Thanks to you, we have navigated these challenges successfully and safely and are emerging stronger and better, together. We thank you for your inspiring support for our first ever Virtual Fundraising Gala held last November 18, 2020. The success of this virtual fundraising event was made possible by the planning and philanthropy of the Friends of Kimberton Hills planning committee, and by the outpouring of support and caring from villagers, their families, our co-workers and donors. This past May 2021, we held our first ever Spring virtual fundraiser leading up to Mother's Day with the theme of "Spring Into Action." Your caring support and participation for our Spring virtual fundraiser helped us through the early financial challenges of 2021 since we have had to cancel our in-person fundraising events and donor meetings the first half of this year. We look ahead to our next Virtual Fundraising Event this coming November and to our 50th anniversary year in 2022 when we will invite you to join us for our Golden Year celebrations. You can choose a gift strategy below that maximizes tax and other benefits to your family and to CVKH:

Securities - Stocks and publicly traded securities such as mutual fund shares, are easy to give and offer great tax advantages. You can: (i) transfer the stock or mutual fund shares to CVKH directly and electronically through your broker to our brokerage account; or (ii) send the stock certificate and a signed stock power for each certificate to us separately via certified mail.

Life Insurance - Do you have life insurance policies that are no longer needed? For example, maybe you purchased policies for your young children who are now grown, or for a beneficiary who has predeceased you? To put these life insurance policies to use, consider donating the policy proceeds to CVKH or simply naming us as the primary or contingent beneficiary.

Bequests - Have you made provisions in your will or revocable living trust to benefit CVKH? Three popular options are to leave CVKH a percentage of your estate after making provisions for family and friends; leave CVKH a specified sum of money; or leave a specific and designated estate asset or item or personal or real property.

Memorials - You can create a memorial gift by making a donation to CVKH today or by leaving us a gift through your will or living trust. Consider naming a dedicated fund at CVKH for your loved one or someone who had a meaningful impact on your life.

Retirement plan or IRA Assets - Because tax laws often subject retirement plan or IRA assets to the highest income tax rates when paid to your loved ones leaving these retirement plan assets to charity may be one of the most efficient estate planning options. CVKH can receive all that's left to us from a retirement plan or IRA without incurring tax liability. Leaving these same assets to family members and loved ones, however, can expose the retirement plan assets to income taxes at their ordinary income tax rates.

Just as this newsletter was going to press, we learned that our dear friend of the Village, Cliff Todd, passed away on July 15.

Cliff was a significant donor and gave the leadership gift for our new CSA building in honor of his sister, Catherine.

Stay tuned! More details to come on our special 50th Anniversary Celebration next year in 2022!

For More Information on Gift Strategies Please Contact:
Craig Williams, Esq.,
Director of Development
610-935-0300 x 11
Email: cwilliams@camphillkimberton.org.





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CRAFT SHOP

By appointment, call ext. 16
Online Craft Shop: www.camphillkimberton.org

CAMPHILL CAFE

Currently Closed
SANKANAC CSA
Harvesting May-October

The mission of Camphill Village Kimberlon Hills is to create and maintain a land-based community together with adults with special needs. Inspired by Anthroposophy, members of the community support one another to contribute to the wider society through biodynamic agriculture, handcrafts and other ecological, social, cultural and educational endeavors.

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ORGANIZATION
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address service requested



**Progress is continuing on our new
Cliff & Catherine Todd CSA Building!**



**Hanging mosaic art pieces are new to
our Online Craft Shop! Available at:
www.camphillkimberton.org**

Volunteer Opportunities Available!
Interested in joining our vibrant life-sharing
community? Learn more and apply on our website:
www.camphillkimberton.org

**Be sure to share our social media posts with
your friends and contacts to help us get the
word out on all our news and events!**

Follow us on social media!

Facebook:

Camphill Village Kimberlon Hills

Instagram:

[camphillkimberton](https://www.instagram.com/camphillkimberton)

**Thank you for your continued support of our village! To make a tax-deductible
gift, please fill out the enclosed envelope and note the designation of your
contribution. You may also make a contribution online at our secure site:
www.camphillkimberton.org/ways-to-give**